

Evolve Systems — Environmental Considerations

- 1.0 Evolve Systems is currently registered to ISO14001:2004 and is EcoLogo and Greenguard Certified.
- 2.0 Evolve System products are manufactured in North York, Ontario.
- 3.0 Recycled Content
- a) The panel interior is made up of 1 5/8” honeycomb, which is made from 75% recycled Kraft paper, surrounded by a structural steel frame.
 - b) The vertical sides of the structural frame consist of either 12” or 24” parts moulded from Wood Fiber Composite (WFC). WCF is made up of recycled wood waste (from our own factories) and recycled polypropylene.
 - c) The horizontal frame sides are extruded, 100% recycled PVC.
 - d) For its acoustic insulation, Evolve utilizes mineral board, which is derived from slag, an inert steel by-product together with common volcanic rock. This unique combination creates an effective sound insulator, helping Evolve panels attain a .65 Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) and a 20 Sound Transmittal Class (STC).
 - e) All steel components incorporate up to 30% recycled material.
 - f) Grade 2 fabric offerings include selections woven from 100% recycled yarn that is made from post-consumer and post-industrial waste.
 - g) All packaging cardboard is made from 75% recycled material.
 - h) Worksurface cores are made from 100% recycled wood.
- 4.0 Disclosure of Toxic/Hazardous Substances
 Re: fabrics see information available at www.terntax.com.
- 5.0 Minimization of VOC Emissions
- Evolve Systems’ epoxy powder coating process involves no liquids and is solvent free. It contains no harmful VOC’s or lead. Up to 99% of over-sprayed powder is reclaimed, mixed with virgin powder and reused.
- 6.0 Minimization of Toxic Substances
- No foams are used
 - No added formaldehyde used in manufacturing process.
 - Connection clamps and leveling glide assemblies are zinc plated.
- 7.0 Recyclability
- Established Recycling Programs:

Aluminum & Steel Waste

Plastic Waste

Cardboard Waste

Epoxy Powder Waste (used on non-exposed parts)

Wood Waste

Wood Fiber Composite (regrinds broken moulded vertical module sides and recycles material into new moulded verticals)

Fabric Waste

- *Major Components Design for Disassembly*

Panels can easily be disassembled to their basic parts without the use of special tools.

All storage components can be disassembled without the use of special tools.

- *Stamping program for all plastic extrusions and injections is presently being developed.*

- *Evolve Systems' Wood Fiber Composite (WFC) is recyclable.*

WCF can be reground and reused in the moulding of vertical sides and moulded modules without losing required performance. All other major plastic components (trim & interior horizontal extrusions) are either recycled or virgin plastic.

8.0 Waste Reduction

- *Evolve Systems is ISO14001:2004 Registered and as such maintains a waste reduction plan and a waste audit annually.*

Please refer to the attached copy of ISO14001:2004 Certificate

Wherever possible Evolve uses returnable containers with its suppliers.

9.0 Energy/Water Reduction

Evolve Systems monitors energy and natural gas on a monthly bases to ensure that minimal usage is achieved.

10.0 Other Processes or Product Innovations

Evolve Systems is the first and only office furniture manufacturer to mould together recycled wood waste from our own factories (40%) and recycled polypropylene (60%) into its panel manufacturing process.

Through this process alone, Evolve has diverted 89 tons (81MT) of wood from landfill in 2005 and through the first 9 months of 2006 has diverted 75 tons (68MT) – averaging over 8 tons per month.

*The significant difference is that common “recycled waste reports” apply to waste material that is **generated** as a result of the manufacturing process and that is sent to a recycler. Evolve is **consuming** this amount of waste material in the manufacturing process.*